

## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Charlie Chaplin's Modern Times

Thursday, 15 November at 8pm  
Winspear Centre

His final film, 1936's *Modern Times*, saw everyone's favourite scamp, Charlie Chaplin, taking on the titans of industry in a satire about industrialization's effects in leading to the Great Depression—a topic that's always been hilarious and heartwarming.

Deemed as a culturally significant film, the Chaplin production is seen as one of his greatest and is even preserved in the United States National Film Registry. The movie's being shown in accompaniment with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, who will be performing the score live.

### The Whirling Dervishes of Rumi

*A Night of Sufi Experience*  
Friday, 16 November at 7:30pm  
Winspear Centre

Whirling dervishes are part of the Mevlevi Order, an order of Sufi Muslims who originated in what is now Turkey. The tradition of whirling started in the 13th century, and is a sort of twirling meditation where practitioners don ballroom-like dresses and spin quickly in order to rid themselves of their personal egos and bad desires while coming into greater harmony with nature.

This night of traditional dance and Turkish music is sponsored by local ethnic restaurants, and all attendees are encouraged to really absorb the cultural setting by bringing a Big Turk with them—either the candy bar or a hefty resident of Istanbul, whichever you can find first.

### The Cansecos

*With Flora and Bebop Pony*  
Friday, 16 November at 8pm  
Victory Lounge

The Cansecos claim to be “so high they could eat a star.” Following in the footsteps of their major league hero Jose—and his less-well known brother Ozzie—this new wave jam band is releasing their second juice-related album, *Juices*, on 20 November. It's their second release of this year alone, the first being *Juiced* back in early summer, which is, oddly enough, a remix of the album that's just coming out now and available for free download off their website.

### Ween

Saturday, 17 November at 8pm  
Edmonton Events Centre

It's pretty tough to pin down exactly what Ween does, and that's kind of the point. Ween members Dean and Gene Ween have never stuck to any kind of musical conventions. After 1997's nautically themed *The Mollusk* and 2003's *Quebec*, which featured a song from almost every musical genre, the band proves they can continue to eccentrically innovate along with their trademark dose of humour on their recently released *La Cucaracha*, which has the band at their most Mexican. Whatever your musical sensibilities may be, this should prove to be an entertaining show.

### The Four Seasons

*Edmonton Symphony Orchestra*  
Wednesday, 21 November at 7:30pm  
Winspear Centre

The ESO brings the pain with this head-banging rendition of Vivaldi's classical masterpiece representing the passage of the four seasons. Get ready to raise those devil horns and lighters high, as conductor Ivan Taurins, along with talented young vocalists Janet Youngdahl and Tyler Duncan, revisit this time-less baroque concerto which never fails in provoking, well-to-do dowagers and fops to stage dive into the inevitable raging mosh pit.

JOHN KMECH  
Likes Ween more than he lets on



# Dragonette a charged-up, sexy beast

Martina Sorbara may now front the electro-pop quartet, but her early days were less raunchy

## musicpreview

### Dragonette

*With Most Serene Republic, Small Sins, and Mother Mother*  
Saturday, 17 November at 8pm  
Starlite Room

BRYAN SAUNDERS  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Most young bands have a story about their humble origins, but few could match the naughty beginnings of Dragonette. Martina Sorbara was a fairly accomplished singer-songwriter, playing what husband/multi-instrumentalist Dan Kurtz jokingly refers to as “tampon music.” One night, Sorbara was playing a concert, and Kurtz was there, too; they met, and some sparks flew—and so did some clothing.

There was only one problem: Kurtz already had a girlfriend. But this little detail proved to be a non-issue, as Kurtz ditched his steady girl and started making music with his now-wife Sorbara.

“I was trying to record demos for a solo album, and Dan was playing with a bunch of his gear in the basement studio,” she says, of the early days. “In the in-between time, we were writing random songs. Some of them were just complete jokes, but eventually we

ended up with some of the ones that made us want to stick to it.”

Along with drummer Joel Stouffer and guitarist Will Stapleton, the four started fleshing out Dragonette's electro-pop, playing music reminiscent of both Peaches (with whom they are acquainted) and the Scissor Sisters (with whom they, until recently, shared management). Quite a few steps away from “tampon music.”

**“It would be nice to sell a couple hundred thousand albums, but I don't think people really do that anymore.”**

MARTINA SORBARA  
DRAGONETTE SINGER

“[Dan coined it], but I kinda of fell in love with the term. It has to do with slumping every singer-songwriter female into one category, which is awful but kind of ha-ha,” Sorbara laughs. “Every time there's over-earnest sentiment in something that I write that doesn't go, we're kind of like ‘Oh, I think I gotta turn down the tampon in that area.’”

“I think, as derogatory as it sounds, [Kurtz says it] more because [it's] hilarious,” she

quickly adds.

She's likely right, since one can hardly imagine Kurtz seriously slamming female singer-songwriters—he produced the debut album, *Monarch*, by Leslie Feist.

She's just one of the big names Dragonette has been linked to, however—they've also toured with Duran Duran and opened for the legendary British act New Order. But despite numerous links to big names, superfluously sexual—and downright hummable—lyrics, and ridiculous amounts of publicity and hype from their label, their recently released album, *Galore*, has yet to scale the charts.

“I mean, it would be nice to sell a couple hundred thousand albums, but I don't think people really do that anymore,” she concedes.

That said, Sorbara and Kurtz plan on sticking with Dragonette for better or worse—at least for a while. Sorbara may be keen on making a name for herself through Dragonette, but returning to her tampax-inspired solo roots is always a possibility.

“I don't think I could say no,” she admits. “I think that potentially, yeah, probably, at some point [I'll make music like that again]. I mean, there's a lot of satisfaction [in] just sitting down by myself and writing a song. [Doing that] releases something else that needs release. I think that it will happen [again]; I just don't know when.”





# Gangster an American epic

## filmreview

### American Gangster

Directed by Ridley Scott  
Starring Denzel Washington, Russel Crowe,  
Chiwetel Ejiofor, and Cuba Gooding Jr

MATTHEW HUBERT  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It may have taken a three years for him to land the script, but Ridley Scott was willing to wait for *American Gangster*, counting on his long and distinguished list of credits—*Blade Runner*, *Alien*, *Gladiator*—to bring the flick onto his docket. While the movie may have taken seven years to get made, it was time well spent for the seasoned director.

*American Gangster* is a blow-for-blow account of the true story of Frank Lucas (Denzel Washington), a self-made drug kingpin who rose to prominence in New York City in the early '70s. After the death of "Bumpy" Johnson, his mentor of nearly 15 years, Lucas retires from the chauffeur life and grabs a monopoly over the city's drug trade via "Blue Magic," cheap, pure heroin, brought in thanks to the Vietnam War.

On the other side of the law is Ridley Scott's reliable go-to-guy, Russell Crowe. He plays Richie Roberts, a New Jersey narcotics detective struggling to become a state prosecutor. With two outstanding actors at his disposal, Scott allows each character's story to unfold with a keen but surprisingly underwhelming eye. Frank's rise to power is the typical Tony Montana-esque tale of excess and lavishness, while Richie goes through all the familiar motions of being the only honest cop on the beat: estranged wife and son, night class, and a

partner who ends up corrupted. All the other usual motifs are here too, and exceptionally performed: Gangster Number 1's eager but thick younger brother (Chiwetel Ejiofor), the failed musician turned hotshot club owner (Cuba Gooding Jr), the Italian mob boss (Armande Assante). The most surprising and altogether entertaining turn, however, is Josh Brolin's Detective Trupo, who steals nearly every scene as Richie's crooked NYC counterpart.

Despite excellent acting, the plot may seem clich  . But just when the audience is ready to hang it up and pass *American Gangster* off as just another telltale cop flick, Scott turns these presumptions upside down and shows the more complicated side of things.

Frank's sensible mind for his family and his position in the community has a dark counterpart in his brutality—the jar of sugar scene is a disturbing complication of his endearing, bad-guy nature. From then on, the film becomes less of a one-off narc film and more a portrait of the misgivings of the American dream. Scott chimes in on the ambiguous nature of honesty, corruption, greed, and justice to a startling effect. It's a stirring commentary on principles that resound in today's America: the endless red tape and bureaucratic turmoil where Richie has to stand his ground doesn't seem to have changed in 30 years.

To the dismay of all those moviegoers who are looking for the familiar brand of gangster flick, *American Gangster* is anything but. Scott manages to weave a blistering critique of Americana without beating the audience over the head; to do this and still keep it entertaining is to do so carefully. That Richie and Frank never cross paths until the film's end is an ironic twist on the saying that good things come to those who wait—one that will surely echo at Oscar time.

# WGA Strike showing execs who really makes the money



ELIZABETH  
VAIL

A&E Commentary

Dear Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers: you're fucked. Because of you, movie production has slowed to a stop, the 2007/08 television season has been crippled, and thousands of film industry professionals have been laid off. Money and time you can't afford to lose are being wasted in incredible amounts, all thanks to you.

And why? The Writer's Guild of America strike. You forgot that screenwriters are people with brains, talent, and financial responsibilities. You figured once you paid writers for penning your television episodes and film scripts, they'd wander back to their little cages where they'd be content to live on Chinese food, pencil shavings, and the clicking of their laptop keys.

Writers are artists, aren't they? They don't care about the money! They won't notice if you put the results of their late nights of creative frustration up on the Internet for free, reap the ad revenue, and "forget" to compensate them. Bet you thought you were smart when you labelled those full-length episode downloads "promotions"—those pesky screenwriters wouldn't know the difference.

Guess what? They did, and suddenly, you have no *Heroes* season finale. No script for the *Prince of Persia* movie. Your stance sure changed quickly, didn't it? "Those ungrateful, greedy writers!" you exclaimed to the public. "Those pampered, pen-pushing snobs are willing to ruin movies and TV for everyone just to get more money! The average screenwriter already makes \$200 000 per year!" Of course, you didn't mention how that's what the average *consistently working* screenwriter makes—and they're the minority.

You were right the first time: writers don't


care about the money. They care about fair compensation. When a publisher distributes a novel, the author gets royalties. When that novel's published as an e-book, the author *still* gets royalties. When you air a sitcom on television, the writers get paid. So when you post those episodes on the Internet, you don't have the right to withhold paying the writers for the work they did under the lame excuse that "the Internets" are still too much of a new-fangled *Jetsons*-on-acid technology to tell if it will be profitable.

The one good thing to come out of your transparent grasping is this: you're discovering just how much writers are worth. *The Office* is one of the most popular comedies on television, but it can't make people laugh if no one writes any jokes. In fact, the unused scripts that were handed in before the strike deadline won't be performed because—surprise!—a third of *The Office*'s cast also writes the show as WGA members.

The one good thing to come out of your transparent grasping is this: you're discovering just how much writers are worth.


The casts of *Grey's Anatomy* and *24* performed similar walk-outs. Fans of *The Daily Show* and *The Colbert Report*, shows that perform scripts written the same day, have already noticed their absence. Congratulations: there are five television phenomena that won't make it to February sweeps.

You treated writers like personal assistants, thinking that if you mistreat them enough, they'll meekly perform your most important tasks. You forgot that writers are an essential leg of the industry chair—right up there with producers, directors, and actors—and it's been that way for decades. If you let the strike go on much longer, you won't need a writer to pen the ending. And it won't be a happy one.



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# Hana's Suitcase gently introduces holocaust horrors

## theatrereview

### Hana's Suitcase

Runs until 15 November

Directed by Stewart Arnott

Starring Ginger Ruriko Busch, Dale Yim, Ella Chan, and Jessica Greenberg

PAUL BLINOV

Arts & Entertainment Editor

"We hope to encourage children to think about the devastating effects of the Holocaust and of ways to ensure that such a tragedy does not happen again," reads the playbill of *Hana's Suitcase*, and it brings up a curious point: at a time when WWII is a distant memory that fewer and fewer know first hand, *Hana's Suitcase* seems almost too late to be preaching education as the best defense. But fortunately, it does so in an engrossing way—even if it's a little ham-fisted.

The play—an adaptation of a book and radioplay of the same name—covers the true story of a suitcase that appeared at the Tokyo Holocaust Education Centre, with "Hana—Orphan," scrawled on one side.

The suitcase was empty, but the mystery behind it enthralled Akira (Dale Yim) and Makio (Ella Chan), two children at the Centre. They began questioning and prodding curator Fumiko Ishioka (Ginger Ruriko Busch) to find out more, so she began writing to other Holocaust museums to try and figure out who Hana was.

The first half is mostly this modern-day story, with Hana (Jessica Greenberg) appearing only as an apparition of the past, scooting or



walking through the background. After discovering that Hana's brother, George Brady, is still alive in Canada and making contact with him, the play turns to George's recollection of his sister's life, from the happiest early days through the downward slope of Nazi takeover to the final moments arriving at Auschwitz.

*Hana's Suitcase* touches lightly on the darker crimes of the Holocaust, but it also does so honestly—it's not so much sugar-coating the truth as it's ending the story a little early. We're not exposed to

horrific images that jolt us into anger; we're given a sad tale of Hana, a Jewish girl who had to try and live through one of the most trying times in history.

Taking place on an impressive double-level stage, the play uses multimedia projected onto parts of the stage to create shape-shifting visuals of Hana's drawings and photos from the past. Cleverly designed to keep children focused on the stage, the set gives the show an unusual amount of immersive force.


But while the stage is impressive,

some of the acting is much less so: Yim in particular hams up his performance. Although it may be effective for children, a few of his moments were cringe-worthy for anyone over the age of twelve. A few problems also arose when the script tried to dumb down its message too much. As a play geared for ages twelve and up, it could afford to tell the story without stating the message slowly and plainly at the end.

But ultimately, such a show comes down to how its target audience—

kids—take to it. Immediately following the performance, a few of the actors came out to do a brief Q & A with the audience, and it was the children who were raising their hands, trying to learn more. They saw Hana and want to keep her memory—and message—alive in their minds.

Despite some over-simplified storytelling and hammy acting, *Hana's Suitcase* is a success that lightly introduces the concept of the Holocaust to those who haven't heard it all before.



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featuredalbum

**Corb Lund**  
*Horse Soldier! Horse Soldier!*  
Stony Plain Records

ADAM GAUMONT  
Editor-in-Chief

Corb Lund might be a cowboy who plays music, but branding him as a country musician is a hairy prospect indeed.

For his fifth and best album, Lund has written about what he knows best: horses. Having ridden his previous album, *Hair in My Eyes Like a Highland Steer*, into newfound frontiers of success, the Taber native wisely decided to stick with this *Equus* equation again.

But gone are the innocent rodeo rhymes that defined *Highland Steer*. *Horse Soldier* is saddled with a much heavier load: songs like “I Wanna Be

in the Cavalry,” “Brother Brigham, Brother Young,” and the eponymous “Horse Soldier, Horse Soldier” take on topics such as war, religion, and death respectively.

There’s a timeless aspect to Lund’s folky, familiar sound—and, in the case of horses, with his subject matter as well. This is the theme of the title track, which takes us through much of the history of horse warfare from Little Bighorn to Genghis Khan, but which leaves us thinking about the present when he says “You’ll know that it was with them that I stood / When Mayerthorpe, she cried, as her

four horsemen died / Gunned down in scarlet, coldest blood.”

Despite these dark overtones, Lund’s playfulness, creativity, and pride in where he comes from remain strong throughout. Songs like “The Horse I Rode in on,” “Hard on Equipment (Right Tool for the Job),” and “Family Reunion” all remind us that there’s a little Hurtin’ Albertan in all of us—and in the witty, non-judgmental way that only the most gifted songwriters possess.

“There’s somethin’ about horses,” Lund sings, “especially a paint / whenever I see horses / I see a path I didn’t take.” Armed with this Cavalier attitude, Lund defies country music’s current formulaic boundaries, changing his spots at will and bounding through cultural and musical borders with an uplifting gait that’s sure to win over even the most hifalutin’ city slickers.

Check out the editor’s playlist at [thegatewayonline.ca](http://thegatewayonline.ca) to hear select tracks from *Horse Soldier*.



albumreview

**Black Dahlia Murder**  
*Nocturnal*  
Metal Blade Records

KELSEY TANASIUK  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

The Black Dahlia Murder does death metal proud on *Nocturnal*, their fifth album. Rolling, manic drumbeats and gritty guitars rule this album with the iron fist it rightfully deserves. But as dark, and foreboding as their album art is, *Nocturnal* is just an average sacrifice to the metal gods: it covers the bases but doesn’t really yield

anything new.

With titles like “What a Horrible Night for a Curse,” “To a Breathless Oblivion,” and “I Worship Only What You Bleed,” *Nocturnal* seems to be following the metalcore playbook, although rapid drumbeats will keep you headbanging and moshing in an

imaginary pit for most of the record.

Aside from drums, the only thing saving *Nocturnal* from complete mediocrity is singer Trevor Strnad’s impressive vocal abilities. He exhibits some measure of vocal training or, at the very least, a lot of practice in the shower. His skill in alternating between equally taxing, inhaled screams, hardcore shrieking, and deep, throaty growls provides interest for an otherwise generic album.

Strnad’s benevolent vocal suicide saves listeners from the boredom brought on by ten tracks of pure death metal. It also shows great disregard for pulmonary health, but that’s beside the point—this is *death* metal, after all. Few things are more metalcore than sounding like death with the black lung.



albumreview

**Keith and Renée**  
*Revolution*  
KAR Music Group

CHRIS NOVAK  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For the past ten years, Keith Macpherson and Renée Lamoureux have been playing shows across North America under the name Easily Amused. Last year, the group garnered some unexpected mainstream exposure when Keith, on a whim, made it into the top 22 of *Canadian Idol*.

Now that the show has ended, Keith and Renée are back with a new name, a new sound, and a new album—fittingly

titled *Revolution*. After the mainstream exposure the band received from *Canadian Idol*, they know that this album is their chance to break out after a decade of obscurity, and it shows: you can almost hear the clock ticking in the back of their minds. It’s now or never for Keith and Renée.

Of the two parts of the duo, Renée is, without question, the dominant force on the album, which is really a shame. Renée

does have a sweet voice, and she shines in the quiet moments on the album, but when the songs reach their inevitable climax, things begin to go sour.

In her very forced attempts to “rock out,” Renée’s voice is strained beyond its limits, such as in the dreadful “Wake Up,” a tune where her vocals quickly become grating and unappealing. Keith, on the other hand, has one of those rare voices that manages to simultaneously seem vulnerable, powerful, and distinctive, as he demonstrates on the album’s highlight, “Surprise Yourself.”

There are some truly beautiful, tender moments on *Revolution*, but these are overshadowed by howling choruses and pop clichés. Keith and Renée push themselves beyond where they should go and, in doing so, come off looking like they’re trying way too hard to succeed.



albumreview

**Jens Lekman**  
*Night Falls Over Kortedala*  
Secretly Canadian

SIMON YACKULIC  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With a small and inconsistent variety of solid, memorable tunes, *Night Falls Over Kortedala* finds itself stuck between honest oldies rock beats, catchy dance rhythms, and tracks containing surreal synthesizer-led concertos—all traversed by Jens Lekman’s unique borderline-guttural voice.

These synthesizers on “And I Remember Every Kiss” smoothly increase in tempo while transitioning to “Sipping on the Sweet Nector,” an upbeat look at the pleasure of recalling fond memories.

Here, his lyrics seem deep and philosophical; at other times, they seem bizarre, disconnected, or amusing. “I’d be Snowphish / You’d be Sunny / We could start a little farm with little white bunnies / Just cause watching them copulate is very funny,” he croons on “Friday Night at the Drive in Bingo.”

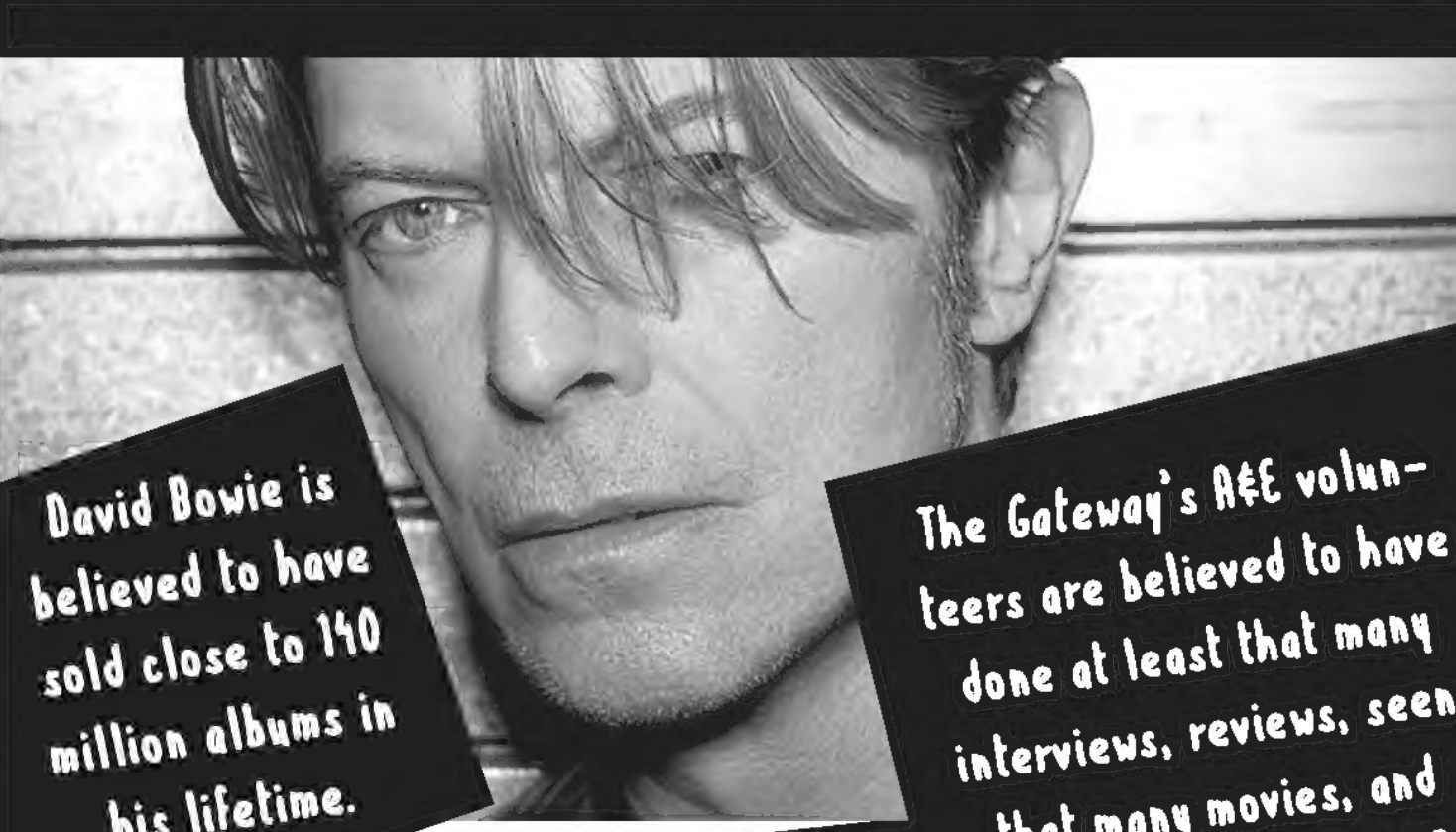
Tracks names, however, will be recognized more for bluntness than for creativity, as exhibited on “I’m Leaving You Because I Don’t Love You.” This sort of thought given to track names is to be expected from a guy who titled his 2004

debut *When I Said I Wanted to Be Your Dog*.

The highlights of *Night Falls* are its last few moments, easily worth sitting through the first three quarters of the album for. In fact, if you don’t have much patience for music your grandmother could spend hours mutually enjoying, skip right to “Kanske Ar Jag Kar I Dig” (which apparently is Swedish for “it took me eleven tracks to get my groove on.”)

Here, Jens explores the difficulty he has (or had) talking to a girl, doing so over the catchiest riffs and tracks on the entire album. A variety of instruments and an ear-pleasing harmony set “Kanske Ar Jag Kar I Dig” apart from the rest of *Night Falls*.

*Night Falls Over Kortedala* is a highly original release—at least for an album in the 21st century. Listeners might be annoyed by some of Lekman’s old-timey tracks, but audiophiles should give the release a listen, if only to expand their creative ear.

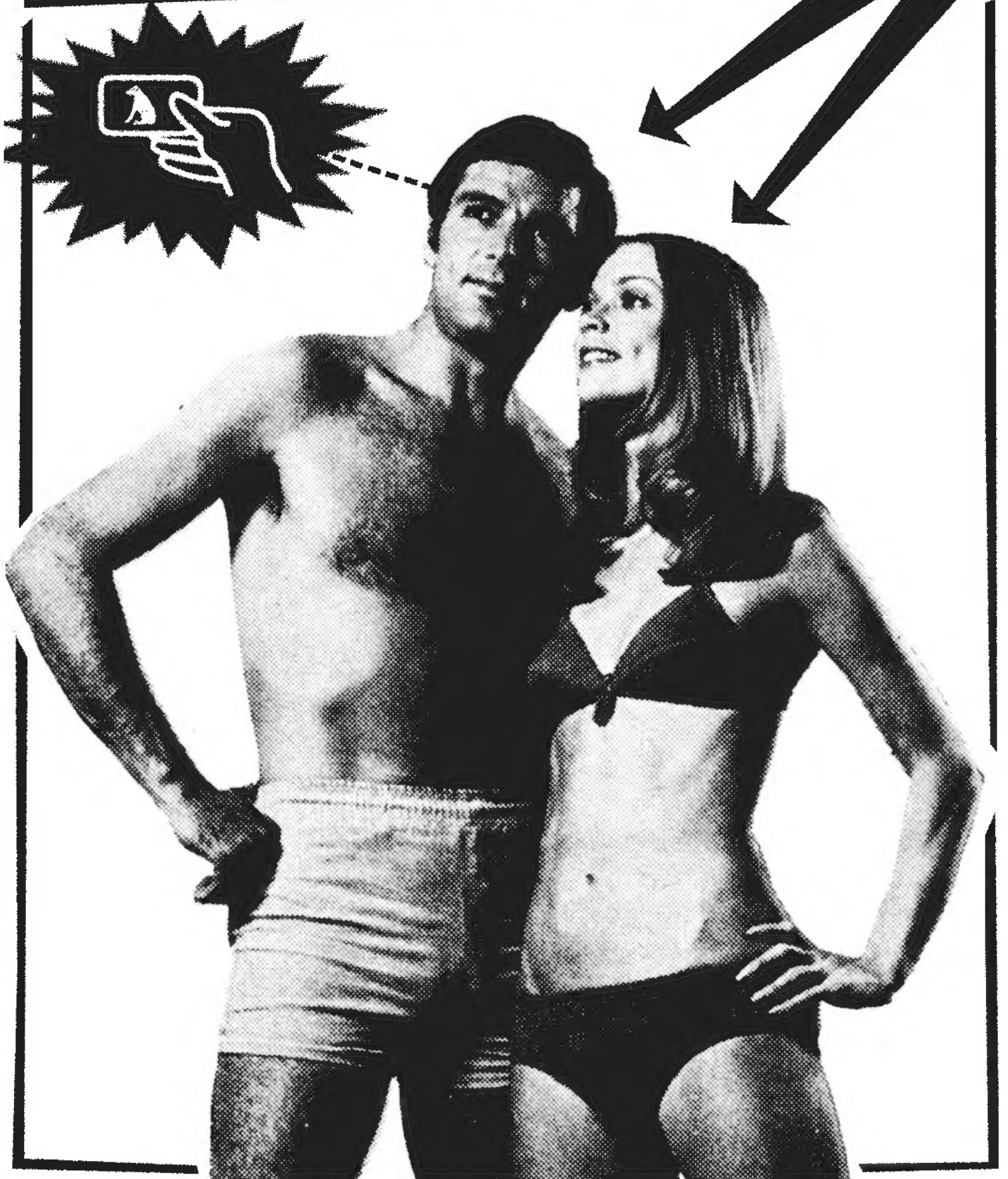


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HAVE YOU HEARD OF IT?



# Hoop Pandas hope to measure up to Cougars

ROBIN COLLUM  
Sports Editor

This Friday's Pandas basketball game against the University of Regina Cougars will be a clash of titans—at least on one side of the court.

While the Pandas (3-1) and the Cougars (3-1) have identical records and are tied for seventh in the national rankings, Regina certainly outmatches Alberta's players in one respect: size. With their shortest forward standing at 5'8" and six players 6' or taller, the Cougars pose an obvious test for the much shorter Pandas team.

"Regina's huge," Alberta head coach Scott Edwards emphasized. "Every one of their forwards is bigger than any kid I can put on the floor, so it'll be a challenge for us that way."

"I think the match-up will be a different style of play—what they offer versus what we usually play—and I think it'll be a great challenge for us for sure."

What the Pandas—last year's CIS silver medalists—may not have in height, they're known to make up for in speed, effort, and depth. Edwards said his team prides itself on its ability to adapt to different opponents.

"The good thing about my kids is they're really versatile and can play a lot of different ways," he said. "[Friday] might be different than how we played last weekend, but I think that's one of the qualities you measure great teams by: their ability to adapt and compete on every single night, no matter what kind of scenario is thrown at them."

What the Cougars expect to be tossing the Pandas' way is a strong offense distributed fairly evenly across the floor—somewhat like Alberta's—except where the Pandas tend to be strong on the perimeter, Regina

focuses on their posts. Key players for that side will include forward Gabrielle Gheysen, a member of the 2007 CIS all-rookie team; and 6'1" post and 2007 Canada West second-team all-star Chelsea Cassano—though the latter is still recovering from a sore back and won't be at her peak.

"We're a fairly deep team—we've probably got nine kids who play significant minutes—[and] we're fairly big across the board, so we tend to be fairly post-oriented," Regina coach Dave Taylor said.

Taylor sees a lot of similarities between the two teams, each leaders of their respective Canada West divisions.

"In terms of Alberta, we're almost mirror images of each other. We build around the team concept; we don't have one person you can focus on who's going to get twenty—it's going to be many people all the time," he said.

"We're both really good rebounding teams; we both rely on balanced scoring, so I think it's just going to come down to who does the little things better, whoever wins the battle of the offensive rebounds. As cliché as it sounds, I think with our teams, it's whichever team outworks the other one."

Edwards will be expecting good performances, especially from post Michelle Anderson and guard Emily Bolduc. The two were on fire this past weekend against Saskatchewan. Bolduc led the Friday night game with 18 points, while Anderson's 17 on Saturday put her on top of the scoresheet. Though both had respectable seasons last year, Edwards said he foresees even better things for the two this season.

"Those two kids worked really hard this summer," he said. "I know Michelle stayed in Edmonton [...] and worked really hard on her body and getting it ready for Canada West play, and came back so much stronger and



PETE YEE

**HANDS OFF!** Ashley Wigg and her Pandas teammates will have to be this aggressive on the ball when they play Regina.

more fit than she was a year ago that she'll be seeing more success because she's able to do more things.

"Emily, on the other hand, went home, but she played on a really

high-level club team," he continued. "I'm really proud of both of them, and it gives us another dimension that we might not have had a year ago. We needed them to step up, and

they certainly have."

After seeing Regina on Friday, the Pandas will face the Brandon Bobcats (0-4) the next evening. Both games begin at 6:30pm in the Main Gym.



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

**DO THE ROBOT** Alberta's Justin Van Loo drives to the net. He and his fellow Bears will want to keep up that action against Regina and Brandon's teams.

## Bears mix it up for home weekend

Morrison's injury has meant temporary changes to the Bears starting lineup and strategy as they head into hard games against rivals Regina and Brandon

BEN CARTER  
Sports Staff

Following a split against conference rival Saskatchewan last weekend, the schedule doesn't get any easier for the Bears basketball team. The Bears (3-1) take on the Regina Cougars (4-0) and the Brandon Bobcats (4-0), two of the best teams in Canada West, this weekend in their last two home games before the winter break.

"We turned the ball over too often, and a lot of credit has to go to Saskatchewan for that," head coach Don Horwood said of the previous weekend. "They had their backs against the wall, and they played with a lot of desperation. And they deserved to win."

For the past two weeks, the Bears have missed point guard and assistant captain CG Morrison, who is expected to miss several more weeks of action with a foot injury. Morrison's presence on the court and off isn't something that can be easily replaced, but certain players have been playing significant minutes in his absence.

Guard Neb Aleksic has started the past two weekends, and captain

Alex Steele has found himself playing away from his regular shooting guard position.

"Alex can certainly play the point guard position, and that means he's handling the ball more," Horwood said. "But that means he played a lot of minutes Friday night, and I think that tired him out and affected his game Saturday night."

**"Alex can certainly play the point guard position, and that means he's handling the ball more."**

DON HORWOOD  
BEARS HEAD COACH

In the Bobcats and the Cougars, the Bears will face two of the top teams in Canada West. Alberta has some idea of what the Bobcats are about, as they defeated them earlier this season at a preseason tournament in Victoria. But despite that earlier victory, Horwood

knows that Brandon is too skilled a team to be taken lightly.

"They present a lot of problems for any team to deal with, mostly with their athleticism and their quickness," Horwood said. "And right now, Regina may in fact be playing better than Brandon."

Horwood knows what the team needs to improve on.

"We have to work harder on defence, especially in the low post area," he said.

"We know that we're not particularly big, and we need to prevent them from getting the ball there before it presents problems, and we also need to cut down on turnovers. Often guys are out of position, and when that happens, that results in easy baskets."

Despite their knowledge of Brandon, Horwood says that, at this point, the Bears are only looking to Friday night.

"We can't afford not to focus on Regina. They're gonna be here first, and there's no way we can look forward to Brandon."

Tipoff happens at 8pm in the Main Gym both Friday and Saturday nights.



# Hockey Pandas face off with weak T-Bird team

NICK FROST  
Sports Staff

With opposing numbers in the win-loss column, the Pandas hockey team (8-2-0) will face off this weekend in a two-game set against the struggling UBC Thunderbirds (2-8-0). Having split their last two weekend series against Manitoba, with whom the Pandas share top spot in the Canada West standings, and Saskatchewan, who currently sits below .500, Alberta has proven that while they're one of the dominant teams in the country, they certainly aren't immune to challenges.

Head coach Howie Draper believes that in order to prevent themselves from taking opposition such as UBC, too lightly, his team must centre their attention on the tasks that they need to accomplish rather than solely zoning in on what the other team is doing wrong.

"I think that if we focus too much on UBC as opposed to ourselves, then there will be a tendency to think things like, 'Oh, you know, their record isn't too good' and, 'Oh, it shouldn't be too hard for us,'" Draper said. "What we need to focus on, win or lose, is just getting better every game that we play. We're striving for 60 minutes of quality play, and I think we're getting closer to that. I felt that we probably played our most consistent game in Manitoba last weekend on the Saturday.

"We just want to continue to focus on the objectives that we set at the beginning of the year and the ones that we set at the beginning of each week; if we can achieve those objectives, hopefully the rest will come easy."

The feeling among in the locker room, he said, is that there's still room to grow, despite the strong start to this season. One of the biggest elements that Draper feels the team is lacking is consistency—specifically, making sure that offensive effort matches the defensive effort and vice-versa, coupled with his players putting in a regular effort from the first faceoff



FILE PHOTO: MIKE OTTO

**WHO NEEDS TWO LEGS?** The Pandas have been up and down lately, but they hope to tip the balance with two wins this weekend at home against UBC.

to the final buzzer.

"I think that we're definitely still a far way away from where we can be," Draper admitted. "I think we've got a great team here, but they're young though, and they need to be more consistent. So we need to continue to work really hard to elevate all areas of our play and try and put as much emphasis as possible on playing as close as we can to have an ideal game from start to finish."

Coming into this weekend's match-up,

Alberta appears to have a distinct edge over the Thunderbirds. Though they have two scorers—Emily McGrath-Agg and Alisha Choy—in the top ten in Canada West, UBC dropped its first six match-ups of the season before earning its first win.

The Pandas have already faced the UBC offence this season, and they know that playing a strong defensive game will be key in shutting them down.

"We've talked about how they might be

perceived as weak, but in all honesty, they gave us a great run when they were last here—they scored five goals on us, and I couldn't remember the last time we had been scored on five times in a game," Draper explained.

"They're a young, up-and-coming team; they're very potent offensively and defensively, and have great goaltending, so we just have to play the best that we can play in order to beat them."

The puck drops at Clare Drake Arena on Friday and Saturday night at 7pm.



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**RIGHT THROUGH THE UPRIGHTS** Alberta middle Justin Merta slams the ball past Regina on the way to a split weekend for the Bears away from home. The second-year had only one kill on Friday, but put up an even ten the next evening.

## SPORTS LONGJOHNS

By Robin Collum

*Well, there goes that streak*

The men's volleyball squad (5-1) were on the road again this weekend, and fared so-so. They lost their Friday night match but rebounded for Saturday night against the Winnipeg Wesmen (4-2), who beat them in last year's CIS final. The 3-0 Winnipeg sweep on Friday was the Bears' first conference loss of the season, but the sets were very close: 25-22, 26-24, and 25-23. Alberta took it to four sets the next night, though, after losing the second set and put another one in the win column. Joel Schmuland led Alberta kills on both evenings, with 13 on Friday and 19 on Saturday.

*Nailbiting on narrow wins*

The hockey Bears (9-2-1) were at home this weekend and beat the Saskatchewan Huskies (9-0-3) both nights. The two teams are longtime rivals, and the Huskies eliminated the Bears in the Canada West final last year.

Friday night's game was a 6-5 win in overtime. Rookie Eric Hunter (the conference scoring leader, incidentally) knocked in two for Alberta, and the Bears also got one goal each from Derek Ryan, Dylan Stanley, Richard Hamula, and Chad Klassen, who shut the Dogs down for good with his game-winner 42 seconds into overtime.

Saturday night's game ended in a 5-4 shootout victory for Alberta, with goals from Harlan Anderson, Ian MacDonald, Jesse Gimblett, Shaden Moore, and Derek Ryan.

*Why hockey isn't like lightning*

It's been a month of unpleasant seconds for the Pandas hockey team. Two Saturdays ago, they lost in their home rink for only the second time ever. This past Friday, they lost 3-2 on the road to the Manitoba Bisons. Pandas goals came from Andrea Boras and Mia Mucci. It was only the second time in team history that the Bisons have beat the Pandas; the

first time was 3 November last year.

The record's still at two, though, because Alberta came back shooting on the Saturday night and herded the Bisons off a cliff with a 2-0 victory. Mia Mucci and Miranda Miller were responsible for Alberta's goals. Dana Vinge was in goal for the Pandas both nights.

*In fields of daffodils, probably*

I hope the weather was nice in Victoria this weekend, for the cross-country team's sake. The Bears and Pandas were in the island capital to compete in the CIS championships. Alberta sent seven female runners and seven men. The five top finishers on each team had their times counted for the national rankings.

The Pandas finished eighth, with 189 points (the lowest score wins, by the way). Guelph, Calgary, and St Francis Xavier were the top three women's schools, but the second-fastest woman was Alberta's Paula Findlay. Findlay, in her first year, is also on the Pandas track and swim teams.

Guelph also claimed gold on the men's side, with Windsor and Sherbrooke right behind. The Bears were in twelfth spot, with their first runner coming in 36th. Cody Carver posted a time of 33:52.27, barely two minutes slower than the first-place finisher's 31:40.28, making for an extremely busy finish line.

*Saturday night's alright*

They split the weekend at home against the Saskatchewan Huskies (2-2) over the break, but the Pandas basketball team (3-1) is still on top of the world. Of course, by "world," I mean Canada West's Central Division. Nationally, they're tied for seventh spot with Regina.

Friday night's game was a tight 63-58 loss, as the Pandas were unable to hold on to the 31-25 lead they built up in the first half. After that, the Pandas seemed to lose their free-throw touch, while Saskatchewan was on a scoring roll. Emily Bolduc was the only Panda to break double digits in points, but she didn't go halfway about it, putting up 18.

"I'm disappointed with how we shot in the second half," Pandas coach Scott Edwards said. "I think we did well enough in the first half and did some good things, but in the second half, we just didn't focus on what we had to get done."

The home squad's luck reversed itself the next evening, however. Rejuvenated, refocused, and taking advantage of the Huskies' 37 turnovers, the Pandas put up a more-than-respectable 70-42 victory. Michelle Anderson led scoring with 17, but Kristin Jarock was hot on her heels with 16 for the night.

*Man of Steele*

The Bears basketball team (3-1) had nearly the same luck as their Panda counterparts on the court this weekend, but in reverse order. Led by guard Alex Steele's whopping 30 points, the Bears earned themselves an 88-81 victory over the visiting Saskatchewan Huskies (2-2). The highlight of that game must surely have been Andrew Parker's crowd-pleasing alley-oop dunk from Steele in the first quarter.

Saturday night's performance didn't give Alberta fans as much to cheer about, however, as the home team dropped 74-64 in the end. Both Steele and Parker did their best to run up the score, putting down 17 points each, but it couldn't make up for the Saskatchewan combination of Andrew Spagrud and Kyle Grant, who notched 21 and 18 points respectively.

*Panda fur suprisingly aerodynamic*

The Pandas and Bears hosted a dual meet against the University of Toronto, and the women blew the Varsity Blues out of the water in a surprise 78-76 victory. Mandy Bell won both the 400m and 800m free-style events, and her time in the 400m qualified her for nationals.

The Bears gave the Blues a run for their money as well, eventually sinking 79-64. Jian-lok Chang, who won both the 50m fly and 50m backstroke, and Doug Rawlick, who won the 400m and 800m free, were standouts for the Bears.

*Flannel to your ankles*

Usually November would be about time to break out the long underwear, but this unseasonable weather has kept mine buried in a bottom drawer. I can still reminisce, however: I had to wear a school uniform in junior high, and on cold winter days I would wear long underwear (on top of regular underwear) under my navy dress pants. It beat waiting for the bus in a kilt, that's for sure.

Llanwrtyd Wells in Wales, in addition to being the smallest town in Britain, hosts the annual Bog Snorkelling Championships every summer. A sixty-yard trench is cut into the local peat bog, and contestants take turns racing down it, wearing a snorkel, flippers, and optional wetsuits. They aren't allowed to employ any conventional swimming strokes, however.

While **Gateway Sports meetings, in 3-04 SUB on Tuesdays at 5:30 pm**, are usually the smallest of any section's, they are generally considered the least boggy.

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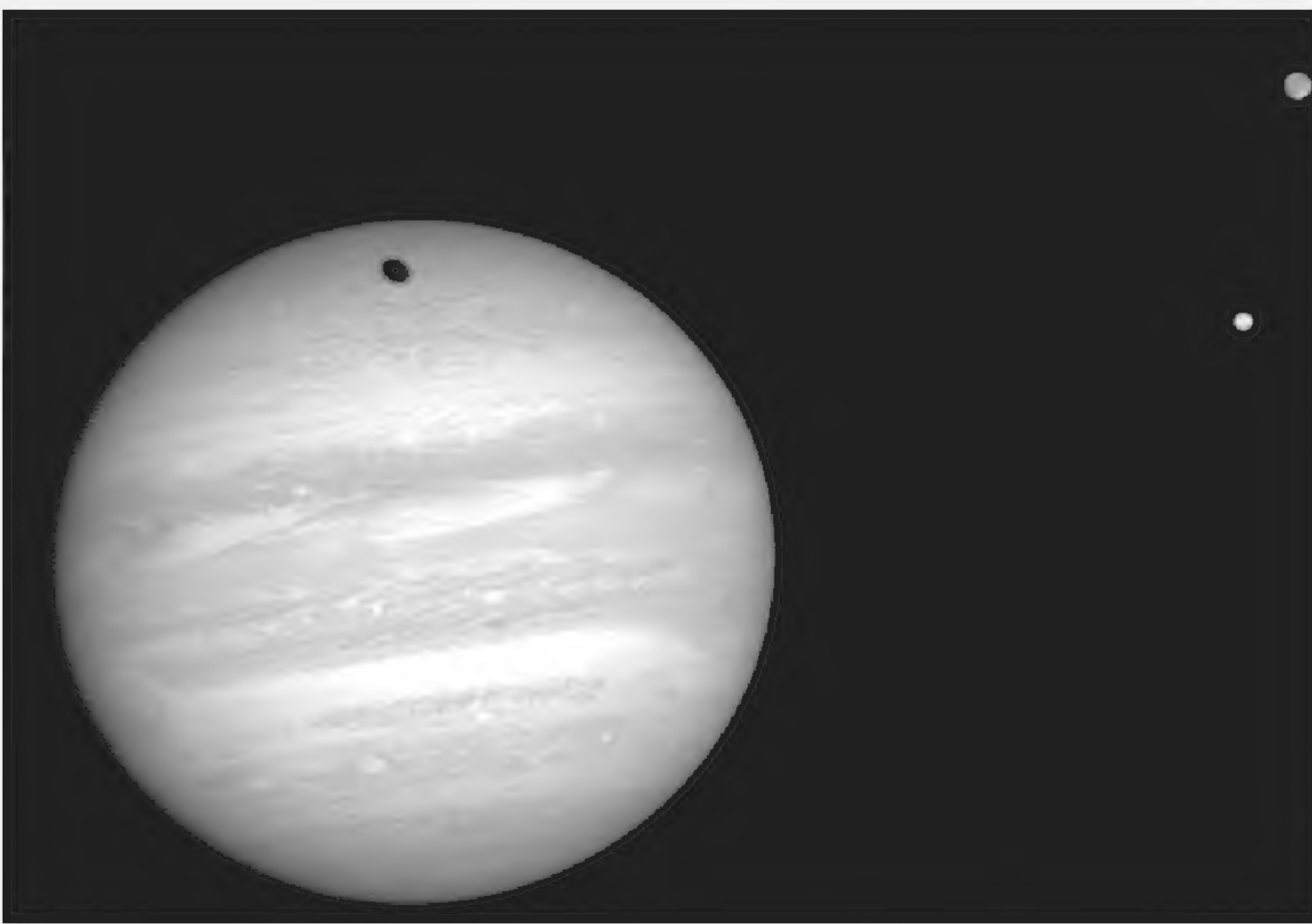
## astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

Well I hope everyone had a respectful yet restful Remembrance break. My time off was filled with flying discs, ruffled skirts, and hunky gay men. Woot!

Speaking of astronomy, take some time this Saturday night to glance up at the sky. You may very well see a meteor! Yes my friends, it's that time of year: the Leonid Meteor Shower is here!

The Leonid meteor shower is the result of the Earth passing through a stream of solid particles, meteoroids left behind by Comet Temple-Tuttle. As these particles hit the Earth's atmosphere, we see a streak of light: a meteor. If the meteors are large enough to survive the harrowing trip through the atmosphere and hit the Earth, they are called meteorites. I have several meteorites,



do you? I didn't think so.

This year's Leonid shower will peak on the night of 17 November. You can expect to see about ten bright meteors per hour—possibly more if you're at a dark site outside of the city.

Also keep an eye out for Jupiter

again this week. It'll be the super-bright object to the southwest one hour after sunset.

*AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life.*



DAVID RIDLEY

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

DEPARTMENT OF RURAL ECONOMY

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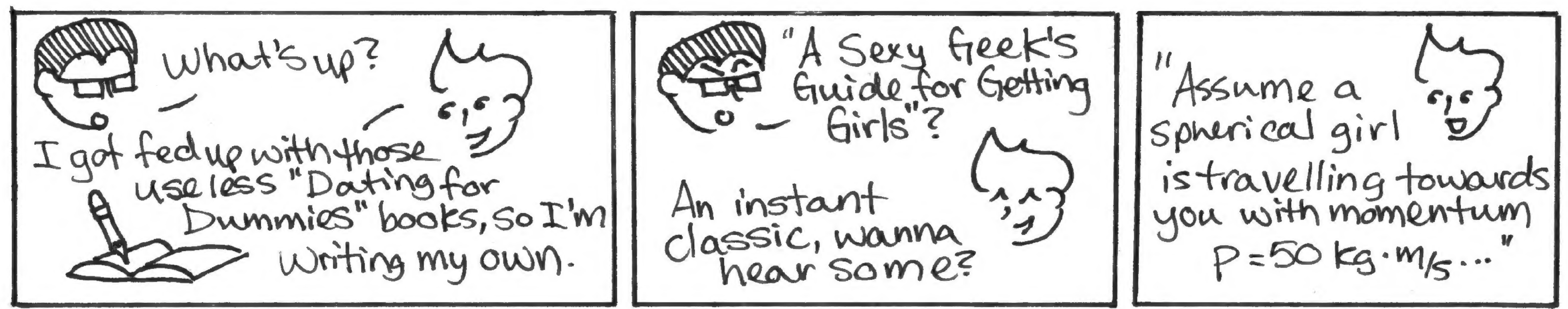
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# THE GATEWAY

volume XCVIII number 19 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, 15 november, 2007



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

**A CLOSE CALL, BUT STILL A GOLDEN WEEKEND** The Golden Bears beat the first-place University of Saskatchewan Huskies 6-5 in overtime and 5-4 in a shoot-out during back-to-back games this past weekend. With the weekends victories, the Bears closed the gap between themselves and the Huskies to only two points.

## Ventures increase funding

JENNIFER HUYGEN  
News Staff

Big business means big money for Canadian universities, which have witnessed a significant increase in the value of their endowment funds over the past five years due to smart investments and strong fundraising.

According to the 2006 annual survey of the Canadian Association of University Business Officers (CAUBO), the collective value of Canadian university endowment funds has reached an all-time high of \$10.4 billion, undergoing a 55 per cent increase from its 2002 value of \$6.7 billion.

As stated in the CAUBO survey, the University of Alberta ranks fourth in terms of asset size and 13th in terms of average endowment funding per student.

Ron Ritter, Associate Director and Treasurer of Financial Services at the U of A, reiterated this assessment.

PLEASE SEE **INVESTMENT** ♦ PAGE 4

## World-class diabetes centre opens at U of A

JONATHAN TAVES  
News Writer

The Alberta Diabetes Institute (ADI) opened yesterday, bringing together leading diabetes researchers from across campus for the creation of the world-class facility.

The new centre takes up a large portion of the recently opened Health Research Innovation Facility (HRIF) East, at the corner of 87 Avenue and 112 Street.

"We've got 200 people moving into the building just in the first wave," said Dr Ron Gill, the newly recruited scientific director for the Institute.

"There are 25-35 faculty going in, but each of their lab groups have anywhere from 5-15 people each, so it gets big in a hurry," he said.

Once everyone is settled in, the ADI will be one of the leading institutes in the field, building off the momentum of the initial success of the Edmonton Protocol in 1999, which is a procedure aimed at restoring insulin-producing cells.

"The Edmonton Protocol was developed for islet transplantation, which improved clinical success from ten per cent to 100 per cent of patients off insulin," said Dr Ray Rajotte, who

was one of the team that carried out Canada's first islet transplant. "With that success, we were thinking back then—in 2000—we would build an islet institute."

Rajotte explained that forward thinking increased the scope of the project, which aims to help the 2.25 million Canadians Health Canada estimates are afflicted with the disease.

"We always thought 'islets today,' but maybe there could be a different treatment in the future. So we said, 'Let's be more visionary,'" he said. "We looked around the University of Alberta, and we had a large number of outstanding scientists, [but] they were scattered all over campus, which was a disadvantage. We thought that if we could bring all these investigators together under one roof, that would really allow us to create a world-class diabetes institute."

They did just that, with Rajotte taking the lead on the project as founding scientific director, starting with a grant application to the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The CFI and Government of Alberta, among many other groups and individuals, were major contributors to the \$300 million cost of both the East and West HRIF buildings.

But despite the grand opening and generous donations, much more funding is needed to achieve the full capacity of the centre.

"It's actually only about half of the building that's finished, and the other half will have to be done after [the opening]," said Lynne MacGillivray, manager of capital projects for the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

Due to the booming construction market, costs have nearly tripled original estimates. However, MacGillivray noted that this setback won't diminish the building's potential.

"Leadership in the faculty has kept their original vision, and they've been very determined to keep building what they set out to do," he said.

About \$60 million is still needed to complete the diabetes institute. As it stands now, the facility's seven levels are all in different stages of completion.

Rajotte, who gave up his administrative duties to focus on research, will work on the fifth floor, which is designed for islet transplantation.

"Though I'm working in islets, I'm interested in what people are doing in nutrition or exercise, for example. By having everyone working in the same place [...], we'll be very synergistic."

PLEASE SEE **DIABETES** ♦ PAGE 2



KYLER ZELENY

**TAKING A SHOT AT DIABETES** The \$300-million facility opens its first wing.

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## A cheap night out

Hooking up can be expensive, but following some of our advice can make it a lot easier on your wallet.

**FEATURE, PAGE 8-9**



## A cheat's night of sin

One steamy night, Dragonette ditched out on their relationships and started making dirty electro-pop.

**A&E, PAGE 10**





A black and white promotional poster for UFC 78 Validation. At the top, two fighters are shown from the chest up, facing forward. Between them is a large, stylized 'VS' in a halftone pattern. Below the fighters, the names 'BISPING' and 'EVANS' are written in a bold, distressed font, each inside a five-pointed star. In the center, 'UFC 78' is prominently displayed in a large, metallic, 3D font. Below this, the word 'VALIDATION' is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. Further down, the text 'DOORS AT 7PM' is centered. Below that, a promotional offer is listed: '\$10 ADMISSION GETS YOU A SLICE OF FUNKY PICKLE PIZZA AND A MOLSON PRODUCT'. At the bottom of the poster, the 'UNION HALL' logo is featured, with 'UNION' in a large, bold font and 'HALL' in a smaller font to its right. Below the logo, the address and phone number 'ARGYLL & 99 ST • 702.2582 • UNIONHALL.CA' are printed in a small, sans-serif font.

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contributors

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Goal to work with other departments

DIABETES • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Collaboration is also a priority for Gill as the director of the institute.

"I'm here to provide an environment where people with a lot of different lenses can view the research differently and come up with new solutions to the disease, both type 1 and 2."

Gill previously had close scientific connections to Rajotte, as they had been collaborating with their research teams for over 15 years.

When Rajotte personally offered Gill the opportunity to succeed him as the ADI scientific director, Gill jumped at the opportunity.

"The good news for me was that these people were exactly who I thought they were, in a good way," Gill said. "There's a lot of excitement and community support."

The ADI will work with other medical research centers on campus as well, especially the Manzanowski Heart Institute, in an effort to share findings.

"There's not one simple snap-in solution," Gill said. "The overall cure is probably going to be a series of smaller solutions to a very large problem."

"Lead the world to finding a cure—that's our mission," Rajotte said. "By having all these people working under one roof, we have a really good shot at achieving that goal."

Bat saliva takes bite out of strokes

BRYAN SAUNDERS  
News Staff

A vampire bat's bite may not make anyone immortal, but it could prolong the lives of stroke patients by improving their rates of recovery.

The University of Alberta Hospital recently took part in an international, double-blind study that examined the effects that administering a component of vampire bat saliva had on stroke patients' recovery rates. Dr Ashfaq Shuaib, a neurologist and clinical director of the Stroke Program at the U of A, explained that bat saliva contains an anti-clotting agent called desmoteplase, which can be used to dissolve the blood clots in the brain that cause strokes.

"Right now, [the treatment for these clots] is a drug called Tissue Plasminogen Activator (tPA), and we use that in our hospital probably 150 times a year. Somebody comes in with a stroke [that happened within the last] three hours, we do a brain scan, and if the brain looks otherwise good, then we put the drug in," Shuaib explained.

However, tPA can't be used longer than three hours after a stroke, as the risks associated with using it begin to seriously outweigh any potential benefits.

As Shuaib pointed out, this problem is even worse, as not everyone gets to the hospital within three hours of suffering a stroke.

"We get 700 to 800 strokes [per year] at this hospital, and about 20 per cent of them get treated with the



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

**BATS BEAT BLOOD CLOTS** Research shows bat saliva could be used as a balm.

drug tPA. This is, in all likelihood, the highest number anywhere in the world, but it's still pretty bad: only one in five people are being treated. So, we're constantly looking for newer treatments [that can be used] beyond the [first] three hours."

The desmoteplase of vampire bats, which a company in Germany is now able to manufacture synthetically, could be one such treatment, he said.

"Desmoteplase has two advantages. One is that it's more clot specific. Where there's a clot, that's where it focuses. It is 10 000 times more specific for [blood clots] than tPA. And secondly, it doesn't have that neuronal toxicity that tPA has."

Original research done in Germany proved very promising, Shuaib explained, and this is one of the reasons the U of A decided to participate in a larger-scale study in which desmoteplase was given to patients who came in 3–9 hours after having a stroke.

"Those [first] studies showed a very

potent effect. [Of patients given] a placebo, 20 per cent of the patients made a full recovery. [Of those given desmoteplase], 60 per cent made a full recovery," he said.

However, the international follow-up study in which the U of A participated had similar but much less impressive results: 40 per cent of the placebo group recovered, compared to 45 per cent of those given desmoteplase. Still, Shuaib is confident that the study will go on and future improvements in methodology will lead to improvements in these results.

Shuaib suggested that recovery rates could be easily improved if people simply went to the hospital as soon as they recognized symptoms of a stroke.

"Most individuals feel that if they have a stroke, there's not much they can do about it. There's this nihilistic approach out there that, 'Oh, it's too late.' [But] if someone comes in within the first hour to three hours of a stroke, we can do quite a lot for them."

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Steve Smith and Krystina Sulatycki



Sean Wagner  
Engineering I



Ewen Lavoie  
Science III



Mike Brayall  
Grad Studies I



Mikala Abbott  
Arts II

"Best internet connection, because [gestures wildly with laptop] I've got nothing here!"

"They should rank them on STDs. Whichever university has the highest number of STDs in residence." [The highest number of STD cases, or the greatest variety of STDs?] "Both. There should be two new categories, and your risk of getting each STD. However many categories that is."

"The quality of the food. It would have to be everything available."

"Probably how cold it is in the winter. If the temperature really sucks, it would be a horrible, horrible thing."

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SAM BROOKS

**FINDING THE CREAM OF THE CROP** Would-be students can now consult the 17th-annual Maclean's university rankings.

## Maclean's PSE rankings released

Annual report continues following last year's boycott from 26 different schools

KIRSTEN GORUK  
News Staff

Maclean's magazine's 17th annual university rankings issue hit newsstands last Thursday, a year after 26 top post-secondary institutions from across the country boycotted filling out the required questionnaire traditionally used to compile the lists.

Despite being a leader of the initial boycott, the University of Alberta landed in the top three of four national reputation categories in the rankings, coming in third for "Best Overall," second for "Most Innovative," third in "Leaders of Tomorrow," and seventh for "Highest Quality."

"We have moved up, whatever it means, but [the University] continues to have really serious disagreements with Maclean's on a wide range of methodological issues," Carl Amrhein, Provost and Vice-President (Academic) explained. Among those concerns is his desire for Maclean's to recognize that Alberta highschool students are graded on a different scale than those that of other provinces.

The results of the national reputation ranking are determined by combining the universities' results in the undergraduate, comprehensive, and medical doctoral categories. Each individual category's information is gathered from a number of performance measures: student/classes, faculty, resources, student support, libraries, and reputation. Each measure is given a weighting that ranges from 12 per cent for resources to 22 per cent for reputation.

Working with a number of sources, Maclean's sends out thousands of

reputation surveys to university officials, high-school principals, guidance councillors, CEOs and corporate recruiters each year. However, as Maclean's managing editor Tony Keller explained, a change was made to research methodology this year.

"We're only using publicly available data. We're not going to any of the universities directly; everything we're using is either gathered directly by us from outside the university system or is coming to us from a third party," he said.

Although Keller feels that this change has made last year's boycott a thing of the past, Amrhein says he isn't completely convinced. Still, he admits he has no qualms with the Maclean's reputation ranking.

"It's a perfectly reasonable, acceptable methodology," he noted. But with regards to the other three ranking categories the reputation category is then based on, Amrhein says he "resents the fact that a national news organization knows that they're doing something incorrect and refuses to fix it."

Keller, on the other hand, views the University's position as absurd.

"I think the negative impact of the boycott has been largely felt by the universities themselves. The position of the universities that refused to make information public was embarrassing and highly detrimental to them," Keller argued.

But Amrhein explained that as an academic institution, the University finds it difficult to take part in a preferential fashion with an exercise that "appears to be as much public relations as news."

"[They] are not providing preferential information to any other news organization, and all useful information is on the web."

However, Keller explained that amid this conflict, there's a general agreement regarding the value of Maclean's information to students.

"Maclean's university rankings issue outsells a regular issue in multiples," Keller said—and Amrhein himself encourages students to pay attention to the it.

A survey conducted by the 2007 Canadian Undergraduate Survey Consortium also revealed that 80 per cent of students use the Maclean's rankings to weigh their options, and about half of those students said the issue had an influence on their decision.

Kaylee Galipeau, a twelfth grade student at Eastglen High School in Edmonton, is no exception.

"It's always good to see how the U of A compares to other universities," she said. "You don't pick a university because it's close; you want to pick one because it has good programs and a good reputation."

Kris Lensink, a third-year Business student at the U of A, believes that the results are relevant to current students as well as prospective ones. Although he was aware of the boycott and did express some skepticism, he said it doesn't change the fact that people take Maclean's seriously.

"I want to know that I'm going to a fairly reputable institution. I guess it also matters in the long term in that my employers are probably going to look at where I got my degree and how high their level of competitiveness is."

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oilers vs. the flames

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oilers vs. the Canucks

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# Smart investments lead to endowment growth

INVESTMENT • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“As far as asset size goes, the University’s endowments as of 31 December, 2006 were reported at \$696 million, and that ranks fourth in terms of asset size,” Ritter said. “Our endowments using a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) base of 36 897 students works out to [...] \$18 866 [in funding] per student.”

According to Ritter, the U of A had \$32 million available for spending in the 2006/07 academic year.

Endowment funds are created when donations to a university are invested and a portion of the interest made off these investments is generated for spending. Scholarships, bursaries, and endowed professorships are prime examples of endowed spending.

As David Mitchell, Vice-Principal (Advancement) at Queen’s University explained, there are essentially two ways an endowment can grow.

“One is through donations, obviously,” Mitchell said. “The other way that endowments grow is through strong investment results.”

However, while the values are increasing, the Canadian average still pales in comparison to those south of the border.

According to Mitchell, Canadian universities aren’t going far enough with their endowment funds.

“I can tell you that right from the start, Canadian universities generally have not been doing enough to build their endowment funds,” he said.

“When you compare endowments at Canadian universities to our American counterparts, [...] our funds

are not as significant, and as a result, we don’t have the flexibility to address our top university priorities.”

But Mitchell believes that this gap can be narrowed if domestic universities exercise smart and sustainable management of endowments.

**“When you compare endowments at Canadian universities to our American counterparts, [...] our funds are not as significant, and as a result, we don’t have the flexibility to address our top university priorities.”**

**DAVID MITCHELL**  
VICE-PRINCIPAL (ADVANCEMENT)  
QUEENS UNIVERSITY

Ritter reiterates the need for sustainability in academic funding and cites changes being implemented in the way the U of A manages its endowments as meeting this goal.

“What we’re doing is transitioning to a long-term, sustainable spending policy,” Ritter explained. “We always try to manage [endowments] so that the real value after inflation is maintained over time, so you don’t want to spend too much, and you don’t want to spend too little.”

# A life captured through landscapes

Chris Harris may have travelled the world taking photos, but it only took a calendar featuring pictures of the Rockies of the to get him to settle down

**KIRSTEN GORUK**  
News Staff

Freelance nature photographer Chris Harris was on the University of Alberta campus last week to talk about his book *Spirit in the Grass*, and after years of experience, Harris says he still takes a great deal of pleasure in the fact that his life has developed around photography.

Although born in Montreal, Harris attended high school and university in New Brunswick. In 1969, he graduated from the University of New Brunswick with a BA in ancient history, but soon realized he wasn’t ready to settle down and start a career.

“I always had a map of the world above my study desk, and that was a big mistake. I used to daydream; I was more interested in travel,” he admits.

Backpack strapped on and camera in hand, Harris traveled the world for a year and a half. Starting in Europe, hitch hiking across Asia, passing through India, heading down to Australia, up to Japan, and then over to Russia, he took pictures of absolutely everything he saw. He distinctly remembers his time in Russia as being a unique experience.

“I was there during the height of the Cold War, and I traveled on the Trans-Siberian Railway. I was the only the non-Russian on the train,” Harris recalls. After his brief stint as a world traveller, Harris still wasn’t quite ready to settle down into a 9–5 work routine, so upon returning home, he

went back to school.

“I went back to university, and it had a lot more meaning for me. I studied anthropology, archaeology, and ancient history—all about the things and places I’d seen and been to throughout the world.”

**“I always had a map of the world above my study desk and that was a big mistake. I used to daydream; I was more interested in travel.”**

**CHRIS HARRIS**

Completing his Bachelor of Education, Harris was ready for more adventures. It was a calendar featuring photos of British Columbia and its mountain landscapes that drew him westward. While living in BC, he was able to combine his love of photography with his passion for nature and, even better, make a career of it.

Along with his teaching gig in Vancouver, Harris was determined to make a living working in the outdoors. He started his own adventure tour company, Pathways Canada Tours.

“It was the very first one in British Columbia, way back in the ’70s. I photographed everywhere I went,

mostly to produce slideshows to sell trips,” he remembers.

Photography became the most important thing in his life.

“I began to publish my own books, and eventually I was a full-time photographer and publisher,” Harris explains. He has since published nine books in his series *Discover British Columbia Books*.

The books vary in subject, covering everything from the world’s most famous canoe circuit to BC Rail’s 450-mile route and native pow-wow dancers—but Harris is most interested in the land.

“I’m primarily a landscape photographer; that’s my biggest thrill. At first, all my books were really tourist books about BC, but now I’m getting more into natural history,” he explains. “It has a bit more meaning.”

The book he was promoting at the U of A, *Spirit in the Grass*, is a project very close to his heart. It’s been four years in the making, and he says the reward is sharing his work and the Cariboo-Chilcotin grasslands with people.

His previous work with students on his tours has prepared him for inspiring students who have an interest in working behind a camera lens.

“Photography is extremely difficult to make a living at now. But I think that if you follow your inner-most calling—put your heart and soul into it—the rewards will follow. It just may take a little bit longer now than it used to.”

## REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF NATIVE STUDIES

Dr. Ellen Bielawski’s first term as Dean of the Faculty of Native Studies will end on June 30, 2008; therefore, a Review Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations. Dr. Bielawski has indicated she intends to seek a second term in office.

At this point in its deliberations, the Review Committee is interested in your opinions about the state of the Faculty of Native Studies under the leadership of the current Dean. The Committee believes it is critical that all faculty, staff, and students in the Faculty of Native Studies have the opportunity to convey their views to the Committee. More specifically, the Committee is interested in the following:

- 1) **Leadership** – ability to provide a vision and direction for the Faculty of Native Studies and achieve the strategic goals of the Faculty;
- 2) **Management** – fairness, balance, and effectiveness in decision making affecting the direction of the Faculty of Native Studies; effectiveness at setting priorities and dealing with issues;
- 3) **Personnel Management** – issues dealing with the recruitment and retention of staff as well as the administration of all personnel within Faculty of Native Studies;
- 4) **Contributions** – the contributions of the Dean within the Faculty of Native Studies, the University, the community, and professional fields;
- 5) **Development** – the success of the Faculty in achieving its goals with resources available;
- 6) **Communications** – the effectiveness of both internal and external communications;
- 7) **Other matters.**

If you wish to respond to the above issues, please forward your comments **by November 23, 2007**, to my attention at the address below:

**Carl G. Amrhein**  
Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and Committee Chair  
2-10 University Hall  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2J9 OR  
E-Mail: provost@ualberta.ca

In addition, an open ‘Public Forum’ with the Dean is scheduled for Tuesday, November 20, 2007, from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. in Room 2-003 of the Natural Resources Engineering Facility (NRE). At the Forum, the Dean will discuss her vision of the Faculty of Native Studies for the next five years.

Your views are important to us and I encourage you to share your thoughts with the Committee. If you prefer, submit your comments to another committee member. Please contact any member of the Dean Review Committee or myself for additional information. Thank you for your assistance.

**Carl G Amrhein**  
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)  
Chair, Dean Review Committee  
Faculty of Native Studies

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The information during this consultation is collected under the authority of Section 18 and Section 32 of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA) for the purpose of the review of the Dean. Questions regarding the collection, use, or disposal of this information should be addressed to the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), 2-10 University Hall, University of Alberta T6G 2J9; Telephone: (780) 492-3920.



## Museums deserve to be taken care of

WE CANADIANS OFTEN CRITICIZE OURSELVES, saying that we don't have a strong enough national identity or a properly developed sense of who we are and where we come from as a society. And the only way to remedy those problems—and they are problems—is to put Canadian culture and history on display.

Museums play a vital role in any society, preserving and promoting some of its most important artifacts, stories, and pieces of art. Unfortunately, the federal government hasn't been doing its job to support Canadian museums—that much is obvious from the way they've treated the long-awaited National Portrait Gallery.

For years, we've been promised a national portrait gallery as somewhere to exhibit to the public the more than 20 000 portraits, drawings, and prints the government has amassed and which are now being held in a climate-controlled warehouse, hidden from view. In 2000, Chrétien's Liberals announced that a permanent home would finally be made for these pieces of art in the former US embassy building across from the Parliament buildings. Construction on the project had been slow and unexpectedly expensive since the beginning, and in June, Prime Minister Harper stopped renovations on the site, starting instead to look at moving the whole gallery to the EnCana Centre in Calgary. But that fell through too, and the fate of the gallery has been a mystery ever since.

That is, until last week, when federal Heritage Minister Josée Verner revealed the government's new plan. They're going to let cities with a population of over 350 000—Ottawa, Halifax, Quebec City, Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, and Montreal—compete for the opportunity to host it, with the prize going to the highest bidder.

While it's a good idea in theory to have national heritage institutions like the Portrait Gallery in places other than just the capital, the government's latest plan is merely an attempt to conceal their continued lack of leadership on museum and archive policy.

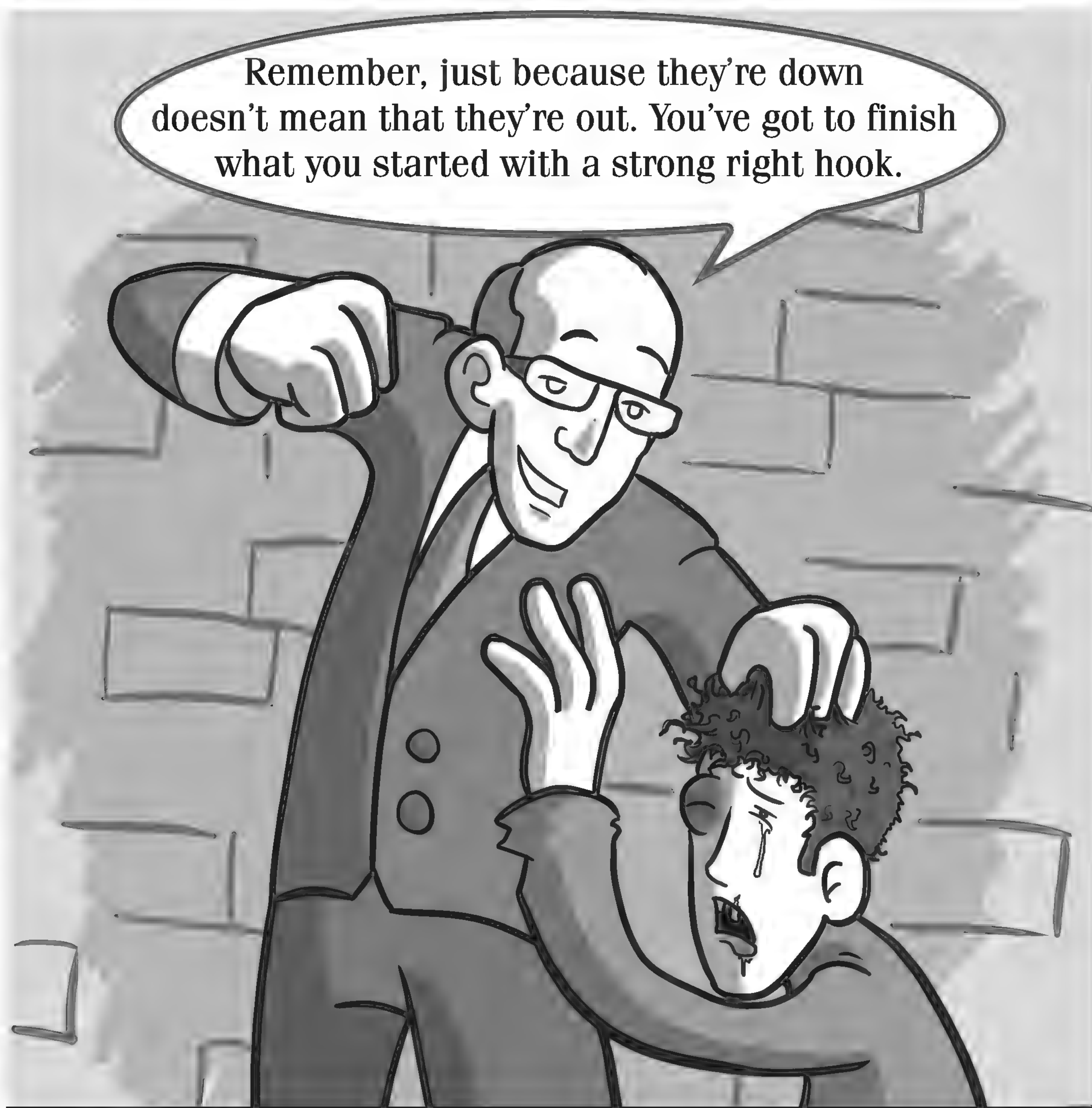
They failed to abide by a campaign promise to create a much-needed comprehensive museums policy, and then almost halved funding for the Museums Assistance Program last fall. Meanwhile, Harper has been pushing for—and funding—a national Human Rights Museum in Winnipeg. These actions have done nothing but send mixed messages, which have done no one any good. Without a comprehensive policy, museums, galleries, and archives have a hard time preparing for the future because they don't know if or how Harper's next whim might affect them.

But perhaps the most troubling part of the new Portrait Gallery plan is the intention that it would be a partnership between government and industry. I'm all for saving taxpayers' money, but I have a serious problem with relying on private industry to develop and maintain important cultural projects. The private sector has no business in the preservation of our cultural heritage, because preserving our cultural heritage is not a business. The problem with having the Telus Portrait Gallery of Canada or the Syncrude Museum of Natural History is that if business interests are involved, the point of the institution becomes turning a profit. Instead, they should keep research, preservation, and education as their main goals, not the bottom line.

Sure, a museum needs money to carry out this mission, but to do so at the sake of accessibility and unbiased research is completely missing the point. Museums should be a place of learning, both for academics and the general public. If private industry gets involved, we run the risk that they'll only display "blockbuster" exhibits and downplay the importance of research, and that citizens—the true stakeholders of the history and culture within—will only be seen as customers.

Public archives, museums and galleries hold our country's roots in their vaults and displays, but without proper support they won't be able to complete their mission of education and preservation. If that happens, all present and future Canadians lose out.

ROBIN COLLUM  
Sports Editor



## THE CITY OF EDMONTON GIVES FIGHT TIPS FOR SURVIVING THE STREETS

CONAL PIERSE

### LETTERS

#### White poppy a symbol of misguided protest

In response to Graham Lettner's piece "White poppy honours dead without glamorizing war" (8 November), I would challenge Mr. Lettner to explain how it is exactly that the red poppy glamorizes war. The red poppy isn't a symbol of the greatness of war, violence, or bloodshed.

It is, as the name of the day implies, a symbol of remembrance and a celebration of the life and the freedom that Canadians now enjoy. Take a minute and think about who you have to thank for that. I would challenge you, Mr. Lettner, to visit the war memorial in Ottawa, take a peek at the encyclopedia-sized books filled with the names of the men and women who have died fighting for our country, and tell me how glamorous it is.

Wearing a white poppy is unnecessary and insulting. If you want to make known your insightful views on world affairs that war is bad and that people die, then perhaps you should come up with a new gimmick. I've always thought that a white dove is a nice symbol of peace. You could wear it on 21 September, which is the International Day of Peace.

Don't hijack and politicize what is supposed to be a sombre day of remembrance. By wearing a

homemade white poppy, you're not making any meaningful statement. You're only feeding your own misguided sense of moral superiority. Show some respect, and proudly wear a red poppy each Remembrance Day.

CLAIRE DEACON  
Arts III

#### Don't be so quick to forget soldiers' sacrifices

Remembrance Day is a day we set aside to remember those who died in war; a day to think about the sacrifice of the men and women who left everything behind to protect the rights and freedoms we all hold so dear. The poppy is a visual reminder of the true cost of war and is a distinct allusion to the red poppies in Flanders Fields, the dead soldiers buried there, and their fear that they'll be forgotten.

Unfortunately, some people have been using the dead to prop up their political agenda and have been promoting the wearing of white poppies. They say the white poppy represents peace and the end to all war; I tell you, no one yearns for peace more than the soldier who has waded through the blood of his comrades and allies. The red poppy does not glorify war; it reminds us of the very real, very horrible consequences of violent conflict.

The Peace Pledge Union says the white poppies honour those who

have fallen in war, but at the same time, they attack them for having taken up arms in the first place. Fighting Hitler was wrong, they say. Those who died deserved it for being involved in war, and those who didn't are guilty of crimes against humanity.

The very idea of honouring soldiers is anathema to the people who produce and sell the white poppy. The white poppy is nothing more than a way for an attention-seeking group to get some time under the media spotlight to highlight their political agenda. I can think of 364 really good reasons not to wear a white poppy on Remembrance Day.

The end to war is a noble cause to stand for and one that I sympathize with. Just don't do it by spitting in the face, or on the grave, of those who fought for just that.

OCDT COLEMAN ROOKSBY  
Arts III

#### Let people remember in whatever way they like

The Royal Canadian Legion states that the red poppy is the international symbol of remembrance. Any further conclusions one may draw about what the red poppy symbolizes would be a pointless exercise. I fail to see how remembering isn't a part of one's values; one can still be opposed to war and participate in remembrance with a red poppy.

Whether you remember with a red poppy, or a white one, or a brown one for whatever reason, the fact is that you're remembering, and getting finicky about which colour poppy best reflects your style or tastes best is trivial.

Whether you're remembering in an anti-war, anti-cancer, anti-poverty, anti-AIDs, or any other context you may choose, people are still entitled to [their] own opinions while participating in remembering, whether you opt for a traditional red poppy or not (if they even choose to wear a poppy in the first place).

It's presumptuous to believe that someone is subscribing to a particular doctrine based on their choice of poppy colour.

ROBERT SUTHERLAND  
Via Email

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.





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**ANYONE ASK FOR A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR?** If we keep taking so many pills, we're going to have sweetener shortages.

## Overuse of pills hard to swallow

Instead of apples, we've turned to prescription medications in order to keep the doctors away—and in the long run, it's going to cost us more than our health



MATT  
LISAC

In 2006, Canadians spent over \$21 billion on prescription medications, nearly half of which was paid for by the Canadian Government. That is, paid for by you and me—well, okay, my parents, as I'm too poor to pay taxes myself.

Foreign drug companies are robbing our country of its hard-earned dollars, and we just sit there and take it, three times a day with meals. Right now, we're spending more money on drugs than we are on doctors. This isn't just backwards—it's the greatest problem facing our country today, and too many politicians have gone mute on the subject.

Our pill addiction is happening for a few different reasons. First, it's completely and 100 per cent legal to advertise prescription drugs on television, radio, and especially the Internet, creating a false demand for dangerous and under-tested drugs. Just recently, Merck, the makers of Vioxx, paid out almost \$5 billion to some unsatisfied customers. They were upset because Merck forgot to tell them that Vioxx might give them heart attacks.

Yes, there are still limits on the content of the advertising. In Canada, you can either talk about the disease or talk about the treatment, but never the twain shall meet. However, this is just the first

step on the road to full unregulated pharmaceutical advertising. Besides, how effective is this split-information solution? Is anyone still confused about what the little blue pill is for?

There's no reason manufacturers should be advertising pharmaceuticals on television. If you think you know more about arthritis than your doctor does after watching a 30 second advert, maybe it's time to get a new doctor—preferably a psychiatrist.

**If you think you know more about arthritis than your doctor does after watching a 30 second advert, maybe it's time to get a new doctor—preferably a psychiatrist.**

Besides, drug companies shouldn't have to advertise their wares directly to the customer. They should stick to what they've always done: bribing doctors with free vacations. MDs work hard enough—let's not begrudge them this minor, systematic breakdown of professional integrity.

The biggest part of the problem is our aging population. When bodies get old, they break down. At least, that's how it should work, but lately, we've become obsessed with prolonging the aging process at any cost. You're not young forever, but with a few pills, you can be old for as long as you want.

What's more, the people most relied upon to keep track of long, complicated prescriptions are the very people who are least able to handle it. Every year, there's an alarming number of hospitalizations stemming from the misuse of prescription drugs. "Was it two red and one white? Six after breakfast, five after tea, and eight before bed? What's my cat's name again?"

Our medical system promotes the overuse of drugs and the underuse of patient-doctor care. It's a nasty, self-perpetuating cycle. The more drugs we have, the fewer doctors we need. The fewer doctors we have, the more drugs we need. Canada needs to step up and reverse this cycle. Put more money into training doctors, and make it easier for foreign doctors already qualified in other countries to get work here. Then find a way to decrease our reliance on drugs.

If you can prescribe a pill, why not prescribe exercise rather than just suggesting it? Many minor health issues can be alleviated with regular exercise. Patients need to start taking more responsibility for their health. And I'm not talking about cancer patients, here—I'm talking about all the health issues related to obesity: heart disease, joint and muscle pains, diabetes, the list goes on. If your doctor prescribes exercise and you don't follow up: no pills for you.

I'll say it again: we need to make it illegal to advertise prescription drugs. Plain and simple. Right now. If you can do it for cigarettes, you can do it for other drugs too. Drugs are a useful healthcare tool, not a Gucci handbag. Even if they do cost about the same.



# Larger workloads mean smaller profits for campus watering holes



ADAM GAUMONT

The Powerplant may have seemed like an exercise in how not to run a venue with a liquor license, but if it's any consolation to the unassuming VPOFs who tried to make it work for the past few years, the 'Plant hasn't been alone in its struggles.

According to a story published in the *National Post* on 10 November, campus pubs across Canada are all failing miserably. There are many theories as to why this is, including increased health awareness among students who don't just want to guzzle beer, a wider variety of affordable extra-curricular activities, the prevalence of commuter campuses that empty out at 5pm, and of course, ever-soaring tuition fees and accompanying student debts.

The health theory is proven by the success of places like Dewey's, which features a full-service coffee bar and light, eclectic short-order fare, even as much of the rest of the brick-and-mortar behemoth sits empty smack-dab in the middle of campus. According to the *Post* article, most other campus coffee shops and juice bars in Canada are doing booming business as well.

But here at the U of A, RATT is still perpetually jammed with students (thanks largely to its campus counterpart being closed), and they serve grub unhealthy enough to make a grizzled greasy-spoon veteran turn green.

More likely, then, is the theory that

"Students in 1910 would only need to learned of the developments in a given field up to and including 1910; by 1950, they would have to have learned everything the 1910 students did, plus everything up to 1950; ditto for today's students. Woe betide the Psych major of the class of 2037."

students simply have less time to frequent these free-spending establishments. There's no question that students have more numbers to crunch and more authors to read than ever before, but that's not the end of the story: students also have more resources and sheer computational power than ever as well. What's in question here is whether their *net* load is larger—and after having completed a degree over five years and having watched many others do the same, I would suggest that the answer is an emphatic yes.

This effect is what you could call "academic efficiency." Similar to economic efficiency, it continually forces the producers in the academic marketplace (students) to become more efficient. Competition (other students) and demands from consumers (professors) both serve to drive production costs (the time and resources spent completing assignments) down and output (the frequency and speed of the assignments themselves) up.

As professors' demands continually get met, they will continually up the ante every year. Students have no choice but to comply due to competitive pressures and established regulations (ie, the academic grading system). In such a system, students have no way of getting ahead, as they're always pressured to perform at maximum efficiency—that is, once they reach a certain level

of efficiency, that becomes the new, unexceptional standard.

Now, a little bit of healthy competition and increased efficiency aren't necessarily a bad thing. But coupled with this theoretically self-balancing system is a linear increase in the amount of knowledge that students are required to learn, which means an inevitable net gain in academic pressures, even when you take increased efficiency into account. Students in 1910 would only need to learn of the developments in a given field up to and including 1910; by 1950, they would have to have learned everything the 1910 students did, plus everything up to 1950; ditto for today's students. Woe betide the psych major of the class of 2037.

Unfortunately, there's no real way out of this mess, not unless professors adopt a universal homework labour standard for how much students have to learn or how many hours they ought to put in in a week. But as any proponent of free-market academia worth his or her salt will tell you, regulatory intervention should be used sparingly in order to maximize intellectual profit and growth. So until that time, it looks like students will either have to skip out on that RATT burger and beer or pull yet another caffeine-fuelled all-nighter.

Now if you'll excuse me, I think my order of sweet-potato fries and fair trade mochachino is up.

# Good things come in small packages

Or how I learned to stop worrying about cramped apartments and love HUB



BRIAN GOULD

I've been harbouring a secret for nearly four years now. At first, I tried to hide it by complaining about the heat, random noises, and screaming, and almost every year, I've found myself struggling with a big object in the stairwell or worrying about having caught some disease. But despite all this, I keep cramming myself into the same dark, tiny space—sometimes for days at a time.

That's right, I've been in the closet—the closet that is my HUB apartment—and my secret is that I love it here. It will have been 42 months when they finally pry my fingernails from the wall, but I just can't get enough of this place.

I've spent the entirety of my four years in various two-bedroom units, which, at a Tokyo-sized 500 square feet, aren't exactly spacious—but that's why I like them. It was a bit of a change from outer suburbia, but now it's more room than I need. My current living room has two bikes, a fold-out couch, an armchair and ottoman, a TV, and a coffee table. We've also squeezed in a full-size foosball table, and there's still room to spare. I now can't understand how people can let themselves be tied

to a 30 year mortgage or drive 30 minutes instead of walking.

I love joking about the size of the bedrooms, which are perfect eight-by-eight cubes. Though I recommend you don't think about this, nor how those cubes are stacked three high and 120 long. I'm not claustrophobic, but I had a minor freakout this summer when I tinfoiled my bedroom windows.

**It will have been 42 months when they finally pry my fingernails from the wall, but I just can't get enough of this place.**

Whether or not you like the size, HUB has some definite advantages. It has shockingly passable transit for Edmonton, and it's probably the only place in the city where it's easier to get around by biking than driving.

I'm not a fan of pedways because they destroy street life, but there's something irresistible about going downtown via the LRT and not needing a coat. I've used this trick numerous times for job interviews, concerts, movies, volunteering, and more. Just don't make the mistake of doing so in winter.

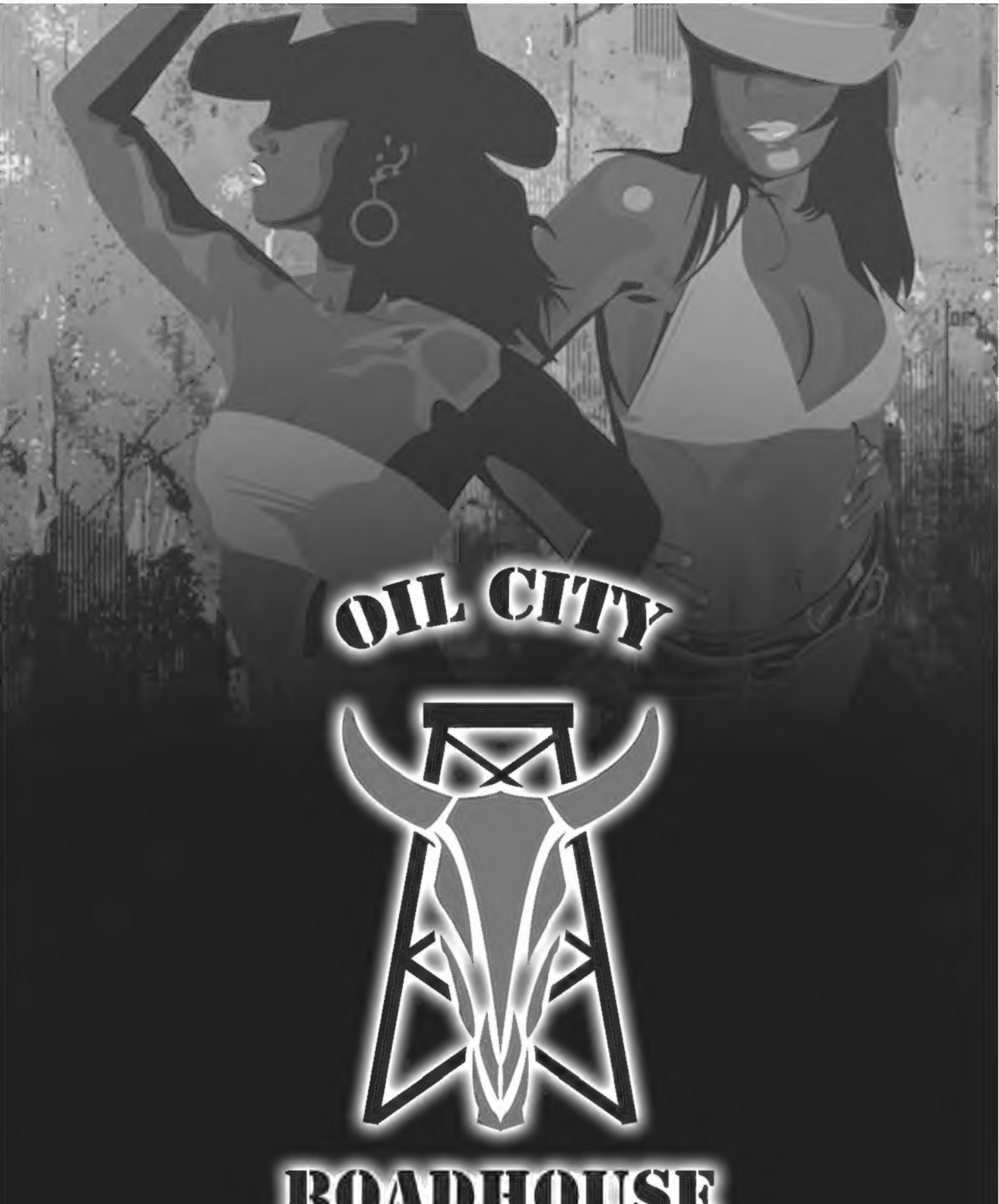
Superb architecture makes HUB great, especially the faux streetfront retail. Since the real thing has been

largely extinct in Edmonton outside Whyte Avenue for the better part of a century, it's a refreshing change of pace to be able to walk a block and have your selection of dozens of restaurants and a wide variety of stores.

One thing that's missing is a grocery store, which has always struck me as a great way to make a killing on over-priced milk. Unfortunately, due to the space crunch on campus, there's been a shocking number of conversions to office and study space—something that needs to stop before it destroys HUB's unique feel.

With the lack of affordable housing for students, it boggles my mind that the University operates a 700-stall surface parking lot next door, when the same space could easily house 1000. As much as residents love to complain about HUB, they don't stop registering. And if you want a two-bedroom for next year, you might already be too late to get your pick of roommates.

There's more than enough room to double HUB by building out into the parking lot at the same height. With the U-Pass in place, we should be able to spare the parking, but if not, we can just put it underground. We could help defray some of the costs by dedicating a wing to market-priced apartments for non-students. Taking the mayhem out of campus could make HUB attractive to young families; there's a daycare in the building and two schools a short walk away. You can bet I'd be the first in line to move back in.



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# Pocket Protectors

**The Gateway begins its three-part series on saving money. This week, resident penny-pinchers CONAL PIERSE and PAUL OWEN take you inside the world of cheap dating.**

Photos by Nadia Balukh, Monica Leon-Quintero, David Ridley, and Shaun Mott  
Illustration by Kelsey Tanasiuk

**W**ith more than two months gone since the money-making bliss of a full-time summer job, chances are your bank account is shrinking, regardless of how many hours you work each week or how often your mom brings you grilled cheese sandwiches while you play Xbox in her basement.

Of course, with more than two months of university under your belt, you've probably met some attractive fellow students with whom you want to spend a little extra-curricular time.

It may seem like reconciling these two occurrences is more difficult than teaching an ostrich to do backflips while wearing a life jacket and your underwear, but it's actually quite possible to complete a courtship without breaking the bank.

The most important thing is the choice of location. Fancy or expensive restaurants should be saved only for the most special of occasions, so if you aren't bringing a ring with you, take them to a lesser-known and less costly spot that they may never have visited. Happy Garden (6525 111 Street) is a relatively inexpensive Chinese restaurant with delicious moo shu pork; Dadeo's (10548a Whyte Avenue) has great sweet potato fries and po'boys for about twelve bucks, so you can get your Louisiana cuisine without having to stumble through a sea of vomit and old-lady boobs.

Breakfast at the High Level Diner (10912 88 Avenue) is another eclectic choice, and you can offset the notion of being tight-fisted by pointing out that they mean enough to you that you got out of bed before 10am. Later evening dining can see you at Pub 1905 (10525 Jasper Avenue), home of some of the best nachos in town. And if one of you isn't a carnivore, Café Mosaic (10844 Whyte Avenue) has some terrific vegetarian and vegan alternatives—and serves pancakes at any time of day. It benefits from a good location in Old Strathcona, as well.

Of course, the cheapest dining option for any type of food is to cook it yourself at home. But it can be more difficult to get someone to agree to come over for a home-cooked meal, especially considering odd

eating habits and allergies, and saying "Bam" while you add spices isn't adorable enough to excuse burnt peas and still-frozen steaks.

Staying at home is also easier on the wallet when you get into after-dinner entertainment. Find a common interest between the two of you—games, a favourite TV show, Cary Grant movies, screaming "shoooooot" during an Oilers power play—and focus your evening around that. But sometimes—especially when your asshole roommate decides to practice his *Canadian Idol* audition in his confederate flag boxer shorts in your living room—you just need to get out of the house.

Renting a movie is almost always a cheaper option than going to the theatre, and if you don't frequent

show. They also offer midnight showings on week-ends. And while they may not play the blockbusters, the Garneau (8712 109 Street) and Princess (10337 Whyte Avenue) offer \$7 student tickets and critically acclaimed cinema.

If the movies aren't your thing, there are also plenty of inexpensive live theatre options in the city. The Timms Centre (87 Avenue and 112 Street) generally has "pay what you can" admission for their student theatre nights, and the Varscona (10329 83 Avenue) hosts Rapidfire Theatre's improv for \$10 every Friday night. But improv is not for everyone, and the quality of the show, while generally good, can fluctuate from week to week—especially if the performers are drunk.

If you're looking for something a little more active to do, bowling, mini-golf, pool, and other pseudo-sporting activities are a good chance for some mild physical contact, and letting someone else win can pay off in the long run. Most places offering these services cost relatively the same amount, and none of them are very close to campus—except Cue, the SU-run poolhall in the basement of SUB—so the key to choosing here is to find the deal.

Most of these places will have two-for-one coupons somewhere—the trick is to find them. If a relative or family friend lives in the Edmonton area, chances are they've purchased an Entertainment Guide book to support some neighbourhood kid's trip to space camp. Find these people. They'll

never use 90 per cent of the coupons in there, and two-for-one shoe rental at Callingwood Lanes can be doubled up with the "Buy one game, get one free" offer on the next page for big savings.

Finally, if you're both hockey fans, ignore the temptation of pricey Oilers tickets and chill at an Oil Kings or Golden Bears game. The hockey isn't quite as good—most years, anyways—but the drop isn't significant enough to be worth the extra cash. The Oil Kings cost \$20 for a student ticket, while Bears games are just \$4 (as are the beers). Just make sure you don't get too liquored and start abrasively heckling within earshot of children.

At this point, you might be figuring that your bank account's safe; however, just because you picked somewhere cheap doesn't guarantee you won't go home broke. Practically any retailer you visit is bound



the multiplexes, you'll never have that overlap of stuff you've already seen. If you must go out to catch a flick, there are a few cheaper options: SUB movie night shows an eclectic mix of films fitting a specific theme each week, and offers free popcorn. Choosing this route comes with a few caveats, however: the sound and lighting is shit, you can't choose the shows, and you look unavoidably cheap because of the first two. It's a good way to cap off a study date if you're already on campus, but don't go out of your way to get there.

Movie vouchers for Cineplex shows are available at all Info Link desks for \$8—that's \$2–\$3 less than the theatres sell them for. If you don't mind seeing something that's been out for a while, Cinema City 12 (3633 99 Street) and Movies 12 (5074 130 Avenue) cost \$2–\$3.50, depending on when you go to see a





**... if you do decide to splurge for desert, offer to share, and it'll seem like you're being romantic, rather than penny-pinching—and always offer your date the last bite. Just make sure that they're not being a chocolate Stalin who's bogarting all the fudge.**

to have fund-draining options aplenty, and even the simplest of McDonalds meals can shrink your wallet if you get caught up in an apple-pie frenzy. It takes skill and social agility to do so, but if you plan ahead and stick to your guns, you can monkey-crawl your way to financial safety.

Probably one of the biggest mistakes you can make is buying alcohol. No matter what dining establishment you're at, booze is always overpriced and unnecessary. Sure, if you're nervous, alcohol might seem like a good lubricant for the conversation and might get things rolling, but chances are if you can't talk to this person without getting them liquored up, the chemistry's not that great, and you're trying to force something that likely isn't there. It's also a bad plan to get them drunk in order to promote a physical relationship—if you wanted to take home someone wasted, then you should've gone to a club.

A prolonged conversation will, however, dry out your mouth, and you'll need something to quench your thirst. Just because you're not drinking alcohol doesn't mean that other beverages won't break the bank. Coffee and cola mean a little less jingle in your pocket, and besides, water's a healthier alternative. Sure it might seem cheap, but nobody's going to call you on it, and if they do, you can tell them that you're protecting your teeth—though really, if your date judges you for ordering water, it's time to pull the 'chute.

When it comes to the meal, however, splitting a Caesar salad isn't going to cut it. Burgers and other sandwiches tend to be decent middle-of-the-road items that will fill you up without emptying you out, as are pasta dishes. It's also cheaper to go for a late lunch, as lunch items tend to be significantly cheaper than their dinner counterparts. The other great thing about lunch is that you can follow it up with a romantic walk, which, apart from being conducive to both exercise and conversation, saves on gas. This can lead to further evening plans; likewise, if things have gone sour, you can end it early by saying that you have an assignment to do or an early shift at work the next day.

Once you've made it through the initial ordering phase, don't make the rookie mistake of dropping your guard—you need to be ready for dessert, the ninja of dinner. Leaving some fries on your plate and casually hinting that the meal portion of the night is over is a tested method; alternatively, you can always

suggest that you have ice cream back at your place and then hope you can later distract them so that they'll forget the promises of frozen treats—because that junk's a freezer-hogging luxury you can't bother with, my stingy friend.

If they bust you on the lack of dessert action, just politely inform them that you're lactose intolerant; when they mention pie, say you had a bad experience with the stuff as a child, and that you don't want to talk about it. If you can pull off the turn-away / single-tear combo, that's just icing on the lie cake. However, if you do decide to splurge for desert, offer to share, and it'll seem like you're being romantic, rather than penny-pinching—and always offer your date the last bite. Just make sure

suggest that they can pay for the next meal or movie that you go to.

Now, this next technique is a desperate measure, but sometimes \$18 for a burger with a “purposely burnt” bun is an unacceptable expense, so you've got to cut corners wherever you can—that corner being the tip. This will, in fact, make you a chump, and you likely won't be able to go back to that restaurant without altering your hair colour, but it gets the desired result. Simply offer to pay charge or debit, and when you're away from the table and the time comes to fill out the tip portion, write a nice healthy zero, with a smiley face added for good measure.

If you choose to go see a movie rather than renting one—which, unless you only have a VHS, black and white TV, and your couch is host to a family of cobras—avoid the concession stand like the plague. If you were to get mugged outside the theatre, you'd actually save more money than if you bought the artery-clogging popcorn or Sour Patch Kids which seem to be priced based on crude oil futures. This is why it's not a good thing to be punctual for a movie. If you're late, you can briskly walk past the concession knowing that you don't have time to wait in the long lines; however, if you've got 15 minutes to kill before the movie starts, that's 15 minutes in which you'll have to artfully dodge around your date's hints that they're feeling peckish.

Short of getting the other person to pay for everything—ladies, this is where cleavage, low-cut tops, and tight pants come in; fellas, you're shit out of luck—it's almost inevitable that you'll spend money on a date, but if you're careful and make some semblance of an attack plan beforehand, you can minimize the impact it has on your daily grocery-purchasing capabilities. And if your budget manages to survive the date, even if it was a total catastrophe, you can at least console yourself with the thought that if you were single, you probably would've blown twice that amount out at the bars and still have gone home alone. And really, the only way you can avoid spending money on a Saturday night is if you stay home and masturbate, and it's not like you can get an interesting story out of that.

**Check back on Tuesday as Paul and Conal discuss how to get your eat on without handing all your benjamins over to the Man.**



that they're not being a chocolate Stalin who's bogarting all the fudge.

When the bill finally arrives, it's always a good idea to let it sit for a little bit. Not only will immediately reaching for your wallet disrupt conversation, but it might give them the impression that you're willing to pay for the whole meal—and besides, those are precious minutes in which your bank account is still earning interest. We live in an age of equality, so don't buy into the throwback mentality that one person should pay for the entire meal—especially if there's no connection. If you let them take out their money, you can do the awkward “I'll pay,” “no, don't worry about it,” “are you sure?” dance where you still end up going dutch, but you don't look like a Scrooge for suggesting it. If things are going well, you can always take a hit and foot the bill, and